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School-based Store It Safe (SIS): How to Implement Ohio AAP's SIS Program in a School-Based Setting

Education



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January 16, 2025

Welcome!

Agenda:

- SIS
 - Why is SIS Important?
 - History
 - Basics
- SIS Successes
- SIS Resources
- SIS Partnerships
- Opportunities for Schools

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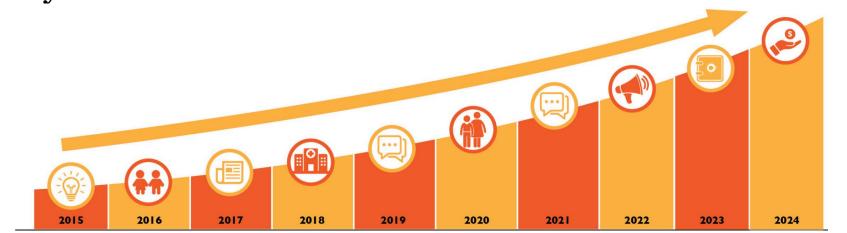






Store It Safe (SIS)

- Began in 2015 when Ohio AAP leadership wanted to find a way to decrease both unintentional and intentional firearm injury and death in youth.
- Unique because SIS brought together organizations with differing viewpoints to develop unified, nonpartisan messaging, resources and approaches including, a close partnership with Buckeye Firearms Association.

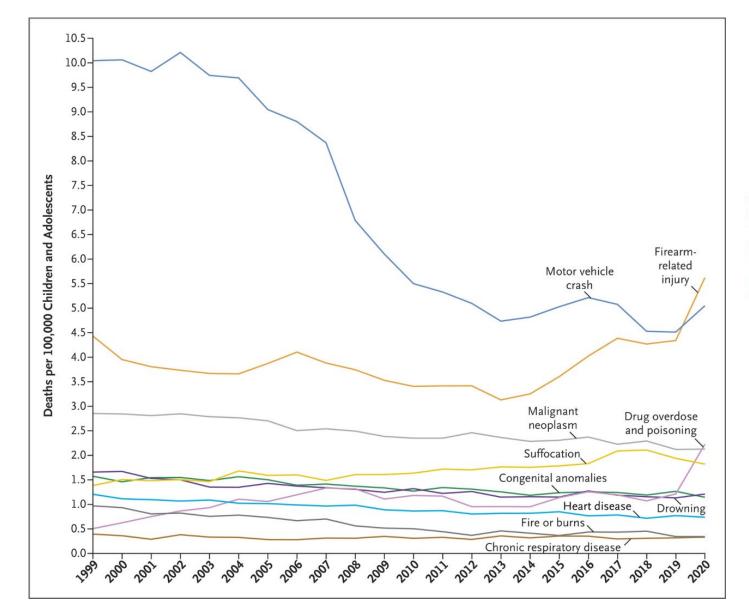


Why do we need Store It Safe (SIS)?



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Current Causes of Death in Children and Adolescents in the United States | NEJM

Figure 1. Figure 1. Leading Causes of Death among Children and Adolescents in the United States, 1999 through 2020. In addition, drug overdose and poisoning increased by 83.6% from 2019 to 2020 ...

www.nejm.org

9-year-old boy injured in accidental shooting

Sunday, February 20th 2022 by WSYX Staff

Three-year-old boy killed after accidental shooting



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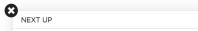
©CBS NEWS

LIVE ~



"Alarming" spike in deadly unintentional shootings by kids as gun sales soar during lockdowns

Accidental shooting claims life of two-year-old child



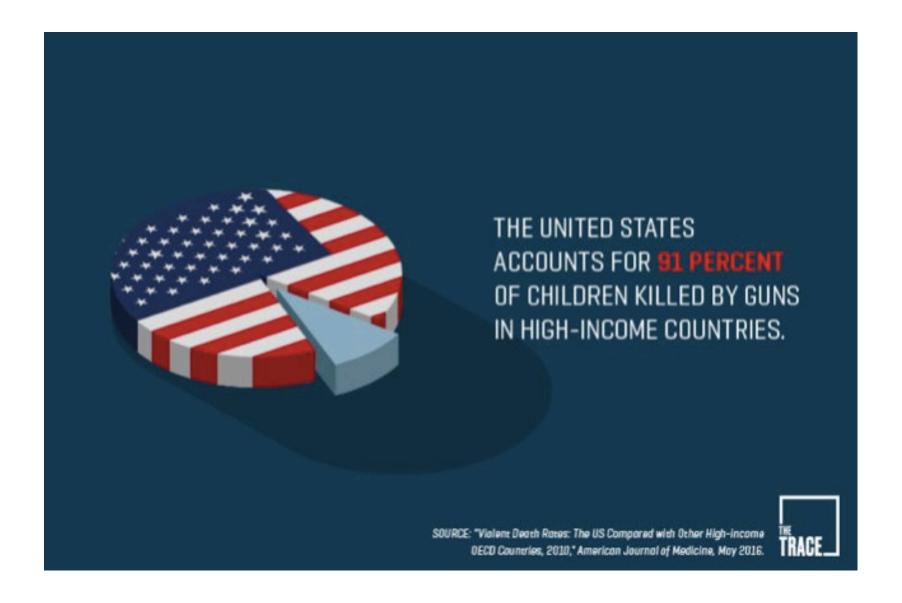
Youth Gun Suicide Is Rising, Particularly Among Children of Color

An American teenager took their life with a firearm every seven hours on average between 2019 and 2020.

By Jennifer Mascia and Olga Pierce Feb 24, 2022



Youth Suicides More Prevalent in States with Higher Gun Ownership.



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Store It Safe Through the Years

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Phase 1- 2015

Address unintentional firearm injuries in young children

- -How to have productive conversations
 - -Pilot materials

Phase 2 – 2019

Begin QI work – young child pilot

- -Discuss safe storage at all age 2-5 WCV
- -Distribute educational materials and firearm safety boxes

Phase 3 – 2021

Expand QI work to adolescent population

-Suicide prevention

-Screening, PC interventions, referral

-Resources

Phase 4 – 2024

Expand partnerships and reach

-Continue suicide prevention QI work/DEI focus

-SIS City Designation

-State-wide branding campaign

Basics of SIS





- Population Based
 - Screening (depression AND suicidality)
 - Anticipatory guidance (lethal means restriction discussions)
 - Resources
- Parents and Caregivers are not getting SIS education in other settings
- ALL youth regardless of risk level based on screening should not have access to lethal means and should be educated on suicide prevention
- ALL parents/caregivers regardless of the youth's risk level should be educated and provided resources on suicide prevention



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Education and Quality Improvement

- Webinars
- In person training
- Recorded educational sessions
- Quality improvement in pediatric primary care

Community

- Resources for community events
- SIS in settings other than primary care

Advocacy

- Legislation
- Policies

Summary of SIS Successes





- Expansive resources applicable to many settings
- Media campaign with Akron Children's Hospital
- Provided over 3,000 lock boxes
- Trained over 300 providers in SIS tenants
- QI work improved lethal means discussion rates and suicidality screening rates
- First SIS Designated City Beachwood
- \$90K for 90 Years Campaign
 - Partnership with Academy of Medicine of Cleveland and Northern Ohio
 - Partnership with firearm retailers/experts posters

\$90K/90Years Fundraising Campaign

- Ohio AAP turned 90 in 2024
- Launched a 9-month fundraising campaign to raise \$90K
- Reached \$30K OVER goal in 9 months
- 313 total donations from Ohio AAP members, hospitals, non-profits and managed care plans



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\$90K/90Years Fundraising Campaign

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Funding Implementation Plan

HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY Podcasts and education geared toward families Lifesaving lock boxes distributed to and community agencies sharing SIS education pediatric healthcare providers across Ohio. and crisis management. Firearm safety messaging via social media Posters with QR codes for firearm retail around suicide prevention to reach nearly customers to access SIS materials and resources **300,000** youth and adolescents in Ohio. at point-of-sale. Partnerships with key statewide school organizations Trainings, education and to spread SIS education, materials and resources resources on SIS tenants, reaching over directly to teachers, administrators, counselors, coaches, **500** providers in Ohio. parents and students. Partnerships with care navigators at insurance Firearm safety messaging around suicide companies to share SIS message and crisis materials prevention for youth and adolescents incorporated with their members/Ohio families. into hunting and 4-H training materials.

Most Recent Wave of QI

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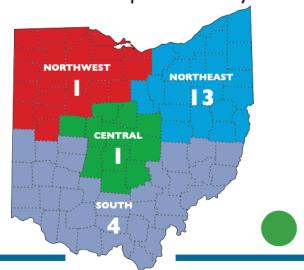
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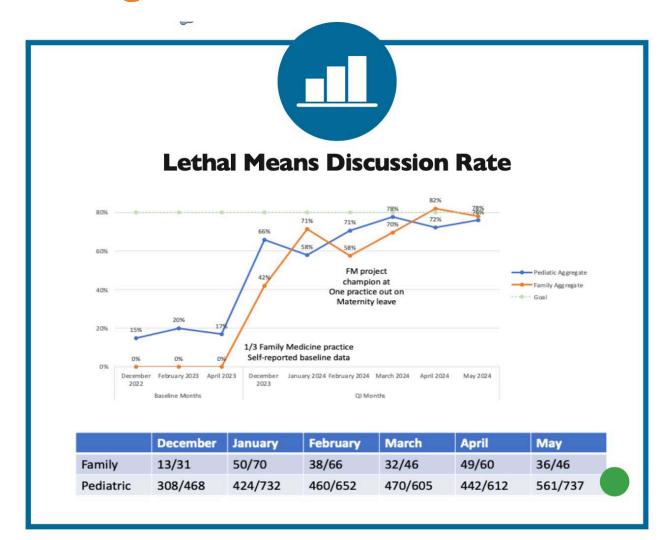




Practice Engagement:

- 19 Practices Completed the Project
- 52 Providers Completed the Project





Most Recent Wave of QI



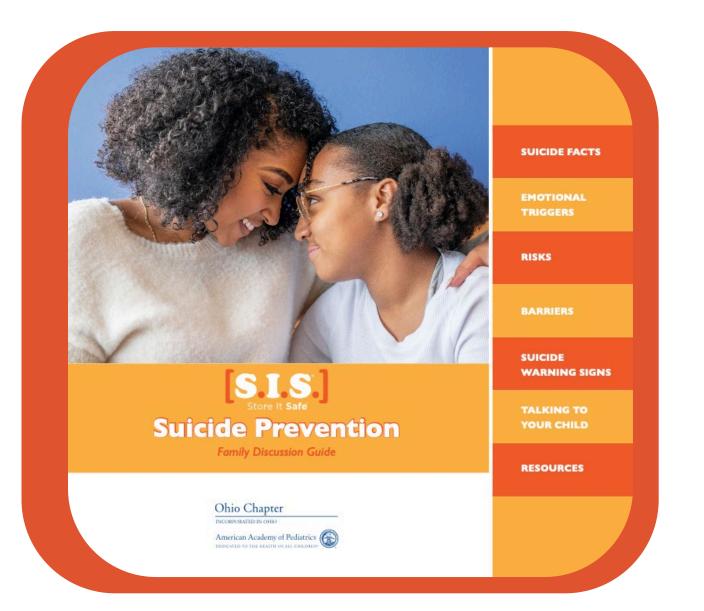
Impacts from Wave 2

- 3,000 Depression Screenings Completed
- 3,000 Suicidality Screenings Completed
- 1,000 Safety Lockboxes Distributed

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Resources For Parents/Caregivers

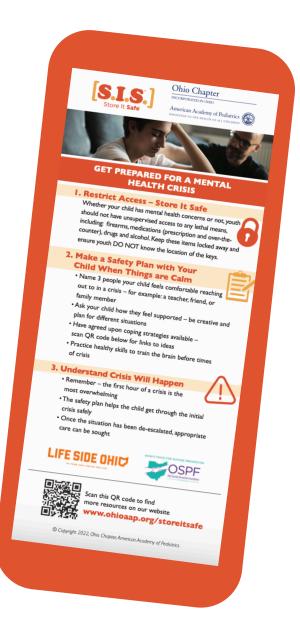


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Resources For Parents/Caregivers





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Resources For Providers



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SCREEN - Identifying youth at risk saves lives

Screen for 1) suicide and 2) depression at EVERY youth preventative visit using a recommended screening tool

with ALL families to discuss

suicide risk and safe storage

of lethal means

- Include suicide prevention information in your anticipatory guidance
- · Recommended screening tools:

cause of death

Suicide

for 1) suicide and 2) depression

at EVERY youth preventative

visit using a recommended

screening tool

- 1) Ask Suicide-Screening Questions (ASQ) Toolkit is a free resource to help identify youth at risk for suicide
- 2) Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-8, PHQ-9, or PHQ-A) is a free resource to screen, monitor, and measure depression severity

Have an openminded discussion with ALL families about lethal means in the home · Instead of asking "Are lethal means, including firearms, medications (prescription and over-

the-counter), drugs and alcohol secure?" ask "If there are lethal means in your home, like firearms, medications (prescription and over-the-counter), drugs and alcohol are they kept locked and away from youth?"

INTERVENE - Counsel families to:

when there is a life

appropriate referrals and

- Restrict Access Store It Safe! • Keep all lethal means stored locked away with no access for youth - this includes, firearms, medications (prescription and over-the-counter), drugs and alcohol
- · Ensure lethal means and keys to the storage device are stored separately in a location unknown to the youth

Make a Safety Plan

- Name 3 people to reach out to in a crisis for example, a teacher, friend, or family member
- · Increase adult supervision, such as screen monitoring
- · Ask how they feel supported be creative and plan for different situations
- · Have agreed upon coping strategies available see www.ohioaap.org/storeitsafe for additional resources
- · Practice healthy skills to train the brain before times of crisis

Be Prepared for a Crisis to Happen

- · Remember the first hour of a crisis is the most overwhelming · Initial de-escalation of problems is essential so a crisis may pass

Once the situation has been de-escalated, appropriate care can be sought

SEEK TREATMENT

1 in 5 teens

If there are acute life-threatening concerns, send youth to the ER or call 911

- · Review with families when it is a true emergency and how to seek help when needed If mild or no immediate lethality concerns, enact the safety and communication plan
- · Give youth a safe chance to use coping mechanisms
- · If crisis continues, be ready to ask for help from professionals call a counselor or healthcare provider Provide resources and referrals for families who need help

· Connect with community partners and local resources for suicide prevention

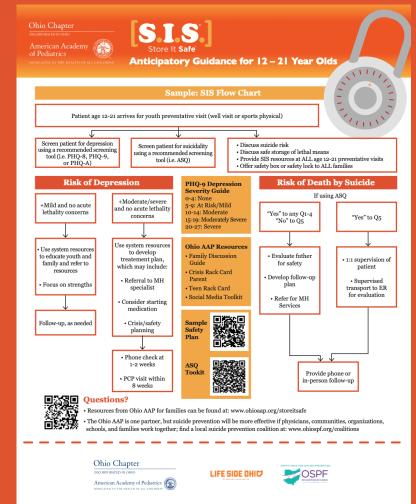
- · If you have further questions, refer families to resources:
- Crisis Text Line Text 4HOPE to 741741
- Suicide Prevention Resource Center www.sprc.org
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline www. suicidepreventionlifeline.org
- Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Call or Text 988

Firearms

Almost 50%

50% of teens

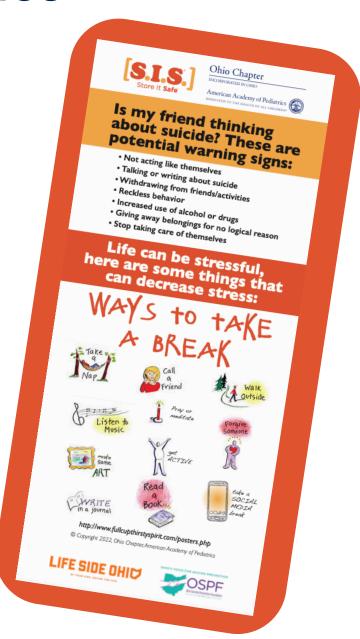
reducing suicides





Youth Resource





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Resources For Firearm Owners

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Reversing the Trend of Irreversible Actions

The Ohio AAP, Life Side Ohio, and The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation understand that more than 50% of homes in Ohio and the United States have a firearm. Similar to safety around pools and motor vehicles, we want to make sure that children and teens living in or visiting a home with a firearm are safe.



Important Facts and Safety Considerations:

- EVERY youth is at risk for accidental or intentional injury from a firearm even if they are experienced and
- Youth should only have supervised access to firearms.
- The adolescent brain is still developing, which can lead to emotional situations that override their still-developing
- · Knowing risks for injury and using a barrier can help keep youth safe.
- Youth can engage in risky behaviors and react to seemingly small stressors.
- Even with no history of depression, youth sometimes make impulsive decisions with deadly results.

EDUCATION ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH.

Barriers should be put in place - and can mean the difference between life and death.





SUICIDE **ATTEMPTS** that involve a firearm result in death.



2/3 OF ALL FIREARM **DEATHS** are due to suicide



Unsupervised youth firearm access TRIPLES THE RISK of



of their decision.





2 IN 10



SCHOOL STUDENTS

made a suicide plan within the past year.



Firearm safety knowledge and experience **MATTERS LITTLE DURING TIMES OF MENTAL** HEALTH CRISIS.

Keep in Mind...



Children with NO HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS CAN AND DO ATTEMPT SUICIDE after an upsetting life event.



Safe storage barriers are **CRITICAL TO SAVING A LIFE** in these instances.





Safe Storage Options for Firearm Owners

Firearm retailers can help you decide which option best fits your needs. Always remember that keys to safety devices should be stored separately and children and teens should not know the location of keys or safety device combinations

STORAGE DEVICE	PRICE RANGE	TYPICAL COST	HIGHLIGHTS
Cable Lock	\$5 – \$45	Under \$10	Affordable, accessible Firearms must be unloaded to use Can be cut with wire or bolt cutters
Lock Box	\$25 – \$300	Under \$100	Compact, smaller than a safe
Firearm Safe	\$200 – \$2500	Under \$500	Most secure option for multiple guns, especially long guns Not discrete Expensive















Ohio Chapter Posters for Firearm Retailers (12 X 17)

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SAFE GUN STORAGE SAVES LIVES



DO YOUR PART TO HELP PREVENT YOUTH SUICIDE AND TRAGIC ACCIDENTS.

Confidential Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Call or Text 988 Crisis Text Line: Text 4HOPE to 741741

Scan the QR code to find more resources on our website www.ohioaap.org/storeitsafe

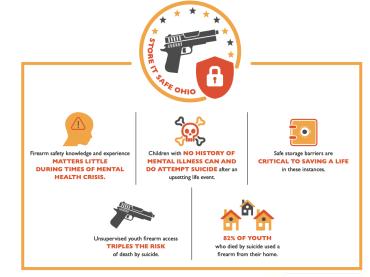






AS A FIREARM OWNER YOU HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO HELP PREVENT YOUTH SUICIDE.

DO YOUR PART, **STORE IT SAFE!**



Confidential Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: Call or Text 988 Crisis Text Line: Text 4HOPE to 741741

Scan the QR code to find more resources on our website www.ohioaap.org/storeitsafe



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Expanded SIS Partnerships



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SIS Coalition

- Works alongside our SIS
 Program, helping us bring
 in the voices and lived
 experience of those using
 our resources and
 impacting the lives Ohio's
 youth
- New member of the Statewide Prevention Coalition Association
- SIS Education Professionals Workgroup

- City Designation opportunity
 - Beachwood named Ohio's 1st "Store It Safe City"
- In talks with UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital
- Connected with State Representative who is very interested in secure storage of firearms and youth safety

Schools as Partners





- Ohio was the first legislature in the country to pass the Safety and Violence Education for Students Act, aka SAVE Students Act in 2020
 - Ensures all middle and high school students receive evidence-based training in recognizing social isolation, identifying the signs of potential violence and suicide, and knowing when and how to reach out for help.
 - Requires school districts to register with the Safer Ohio School Tip Line or an anonymous reporting program of the district's choosing. Districts are required to report on disciplinary actions and mental wellness referrals resulting from anonymous tips at the end of each school year.
 - School district must have a multidisciplinary threat assessment team for each school building in the district serving grades 6 through 12

https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/School-Wellness/Prevention-Education/Suicide-and-Violence-Prevention-Social-Inclusion

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Schools as Partners

- Potential failures in the medical home
 - Firearm ownership may not be disclosed
 - Privacy
 - Fear
 - Language may not elicit accurate response
 - Provider uncomfortable/not knowledgeable about screening and intervention (SIS can help!)
- Potential opportunities in schools
 - Trusted partner in caring for our children
 - Share our mission/vision to provide safe environments for children to grow
 - Have access to families who may not be engaged with a medical home

School-Based Health Programs



Strengths

- On-site presence of healthcare provider trained in SIS
- Potential engagement of both primary care and mental health services
- Referral of students based on parent or school concern

Challenges

- May not have daily presence
- SDOH screening, education, and lockbox distribution without parent present
- Medical mistrust

Critical piece is relationship building!

Opportunities for Schools





- Share SIS resources at existing, well-attended activities to engage families
- Provide education and distribute lockboxes at
 - Athletic events
 - Community events
 - Parent-Teacher conferences
 - Pick-up/Drop-off at Before and After-School programs







- Partner to generate new activities/awareness within the school space
 - Firearm Safety Awareness event
 - Training for caregivers, parents, and teachers
 - In-school podcast, newsletter, or other media
 - Display posters in youth-facing areas







- Target athletic programs for engagement
 - Share SIS and mental health messaging with student athletes and sports staff
 - Posters in gyms and locker rooms
- Consider roles of Community Health Worker (CHW) or Family Support Specialist in screening, education, and lockbox distribution

Questions?

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For more SIS Information/Resources or to Connect:

https://ohioaap.org/storeitsafe

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